

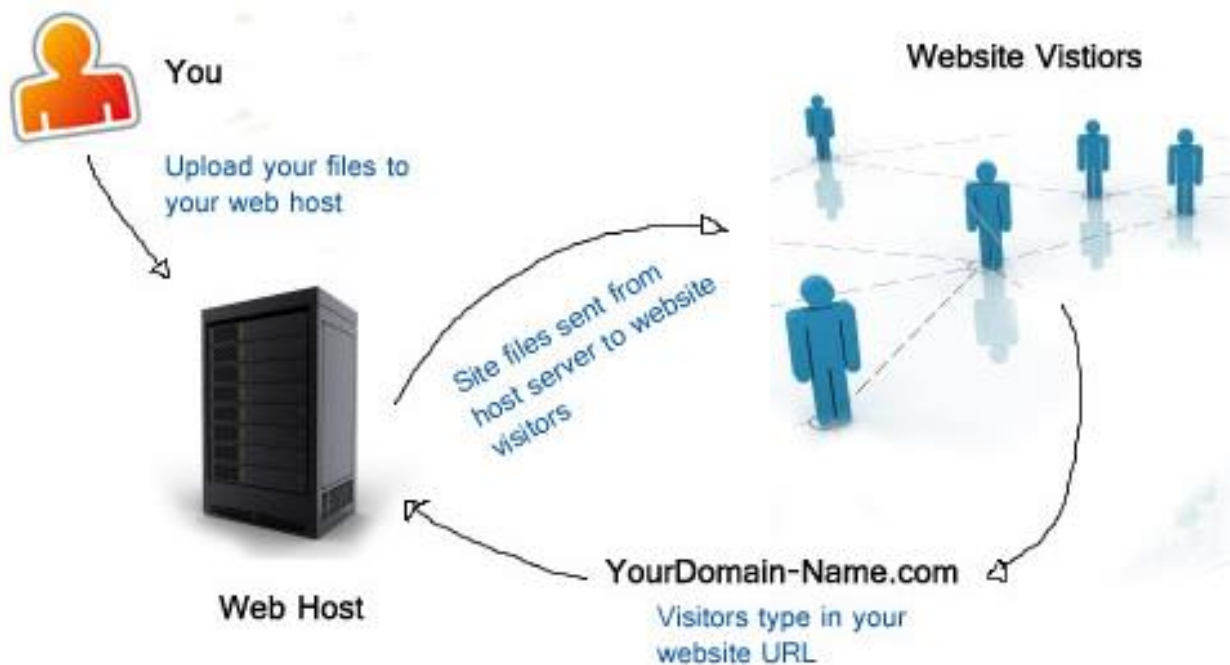
# What is Web Hosting?

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# Why is it important?

A web hosting service is a type of Internet hosting service that allows individuals and organizations to make their website accessible via the World Wide Web.

Web hosts are companies that provide space on a server owned or leased for use by clients, as well as providing Internet connectivity, typically in a data center. Web hosts can also provide data center space and connectivity to the Internet for other servers located in their data center, called colocation, also known as Housing in Latin America or France.



Let us understand it by an example, suppose

When you go to a party, there's always a host. The host is usually the one who sets the location so everyone can come and enjoy the party.

When you're thinking of website hosting, think of your site's host like the host of the party. Your web host, just like a party host, offers you a place to put your website so it can be enjoyed by everyone on the internet.

A web host, or web hosting service provider, is a business that provides the technologies and services needed for the website or webpage to be viewed in the Internet. Websites are hosted, or stored, on special computers called servers. When Internet users want to view your website, all they need to do is type your website address or domain into their browser. Their computer will then connect to your server and your webpages will be delivered to them through the browser.

Most hosting companies require that you own your domain in order to host with them. If you do not have a domain, the hosting companies will help you purchase one.



Here are some features you should be expecting from your hosting provider:

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Email Accounts    | As mentioned earlier, most hosting providers require users to have their own domain name. With a domain name (e.g. www.yourwebsite.com) and email account features provided by your hosting company.   |
| FTP Access        | The use of FTP lets you upload files from your local computer to your web server. If you build your website using your own HTML files, you can transfer the files from your computer to the web server through FTP, allowing your website to be accessed through the internet. |
| WordPress Support | WordPress is an online website creation tool. It is a powerful blogging and website content management system, which is a convenient way to create and manage website. WordPress powers over 25% of websites on the internet.  |

## **There are different types of Web Hosting**

### **1. Shared Hosting**

In shared hosting, one's web site is placed on the same server as many other sites, ranging from a few to hundreds or thousands. Typically, all domains may share a common pool of server resources, such as RAM and the CPU.

As cost is extremely low, most websites with moderate traffic levels running standard software are hosted on this type of server. Shared hosting is also widely accepted as the entry level hosting option as it requires minimum technical knowledge.

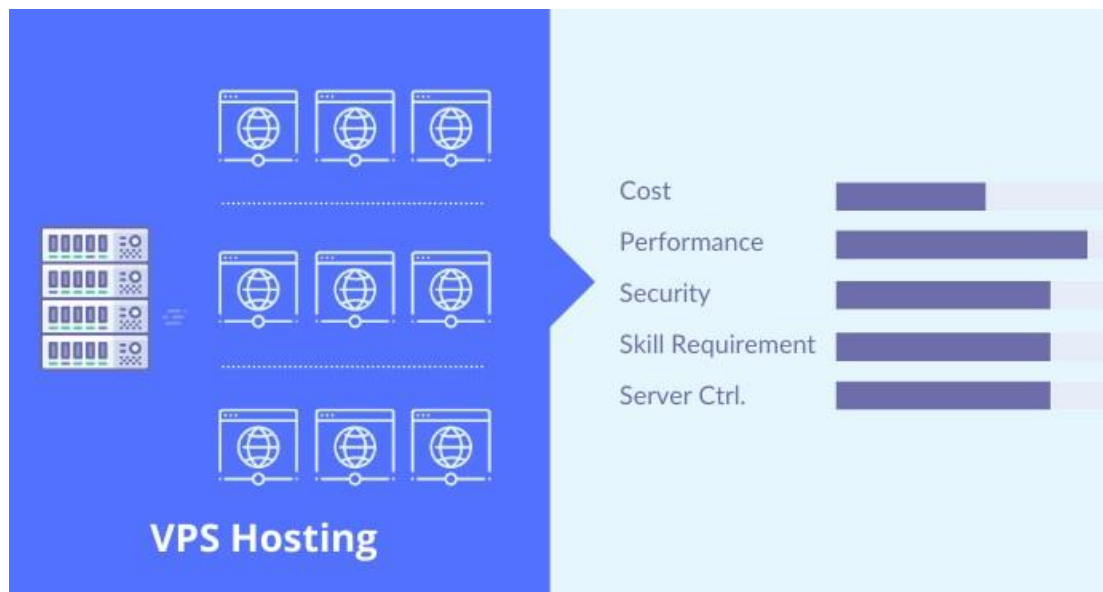


*Shared Hosting: Cheaper, easy to maintain; limited server control and power.*

## 2. Virtual Private Server (VPS) Hosting

A virtual private server hosting divides a server into virtual servers, where each website is like hosted on their own dedicated server, but they're actually sharing a server with a few different other users.

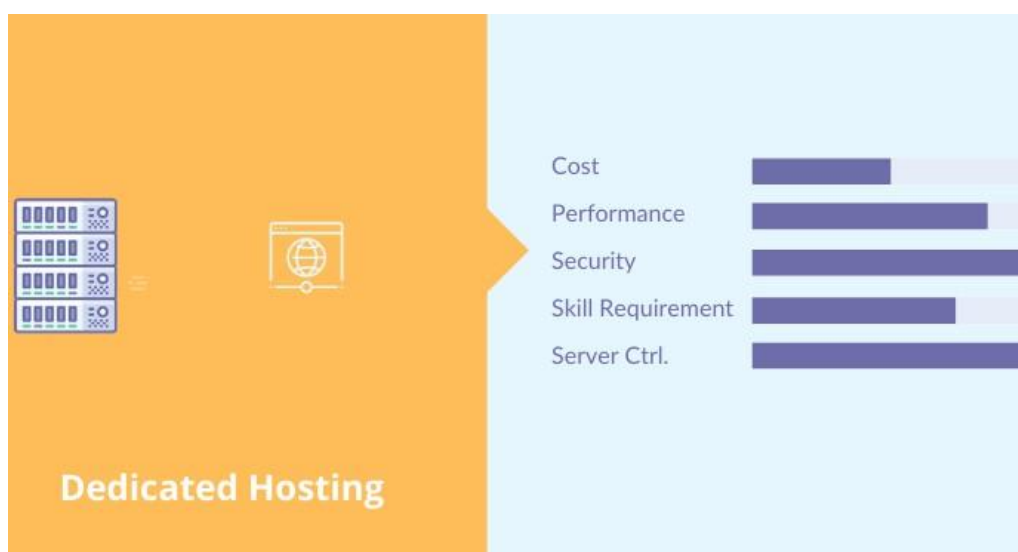
The users may have root access to their own virtual space and better secured hosting environment with this type of hosting. Websites that need greater control at the server level, but don't want to invest in a dedicated server.



*VPS Hosting: More server control and power; pricier than shared hosting.*

### 3. Dedicated Server Hosting

A dedicated server offers the maximum control over the web server your website is stored on – You exclusively rent an entire server. Your website(s) is the only website stored on the server.



*Dedicated Hosting: Great server power and full server control; require highest cost and skills.*

## 4. Cloud Hosting

Cloud hosting offers unlimited ability to handle high traffic or traffic spikes. Here's how it works: A team of servers (called a cloud) work together to host a group of websites. This allows multiple computers to work together to handle high traffic levels or spikes for any particular website.



*Cloud Hosting: Extremely flexible and cost efficient; steeper learning curve to start.*

## Why Web Hosting is important?

Reasons why web hosting is important for your website:

### 1) **Safe and stable server environment**

Choosing a good web host provider is paramount if you want a secure server to rest your website on. Only a safe web host can provide a network

space that is strong enough to fight online threats, hacks and other cyber-attacks. A reliable web host provider will keep your site data and client's personal data safe.

## **2) Data storage**

The amount of data that needs to be stored on your website's server plays a huge role in deciding what kind of web hosting partner you're looking for. How much online traffic your website can handle, including concurrent users needs to be well established before you make a deal with a hosting service. Putting a limit to storage can lead to site shutdown when traffic is high on your webpage. A premium web host, like **Hosting Foundry**, will provide you with a variety of options depending on your data limit and fulfill your hosting needs.

## **3) Reliable customer service**

High quality customer service is a hallmark of a good web hosting solutions provider. A good web host will always be there when you need any kind of technical assistance or support. It can offer multiple ways for you to contact them whenever the need arises for you to do so.

## **4) Speed**

One of the main reasons for bad user experience is slow loading times of your website's landing page. A poor web host capability will see a lot of site crashes due to too much load on the shared server. This will lead to your clients looking for hosting services elsewhere where there are tools and software strong enough to top lags and heavier traffic.

## **5) Customizable pricing**

It is very important that once you've chosen your web host provider, you opt for a flexible plan which can be modified based on the site's needs. If your website grows over time, then your web host should cater to the increased server, storage, data speed demands without much fuss. A free plan, on the contrary, is likely to be full of non-negotiable terms that won't come in handy when you need high performance.